Application No.: 10/519,736
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IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims of the present application under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.121(c), as indicated below:

Claim 1 (Currently amended): A track-tightening device for crawlers, comprising an undercarriage or bogie consisting of a structure (20) which includes elements (21) for carrying a plurality of fixed lower supporting rollers (2), as well as idler back-pull wheels (11) and optionally a crawler wheel, said structure (20) also housing a guide system (25) for controlled axial sliding of the track-tightening device (5) carried by a second movable structure (8), said second movable structure (8) being equipped with fittings (26) which interconnect with the guide system (25), said second movable structure (8) having an idler wheel (3) as well as at least one movable supporting roller (22) capable of following the longitudinal movement of the idler wheel (3), the structure (20) and the second movable structure interact by way of a guide (25) and fittings (26) to modify the wheel base between the idler wheel (3) and the back pull wheel (11) of the bogie by axial sliding, wherein the structure (20) is [[a]] box shaped and where at least one of said movable lower supporting rollers (22) is in constant contact with the idler wheel (3) so that their reciprocal distance does not vary during the operating life of the vehicle, under any operating condition and with any range of the track-tightening device, said movable lower supporting roller (22) being ~~singly and firmly fixed individually~~ attached to said second movable structure (8) so that the length of a section of track situated between the axis of the idler wheel (3) and the axis of said movable lower supporting roller (22), is constant and at a minimum value during the functioning of the crawler under all conditions.

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Claim 2 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 1, wherein the second movable structure (8) carries two or more movable supporting rollers (22).

Claim 3 (Canceled)

Claim 4 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 1, wherein the idler wheel (3) is installed on the bogie in a front position.

Claim 5 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 1, wherein the movable supporting rollers have the same structure and dimensions as the fixed lower supporting rollers (2).

Claim 6 (Canceled)

Claim 7 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 1, wherein the track tightening device (5) is activated with a tightener/shock absorber group (30) which comprises a helicoidal spring (36) possessing a fixed shoulder (34), said helicoidal spring operates in extension, and a chamber (38) filled with the injection of a lubricant which acts as an adjustable run end and tightener of the chain (1) of the track.

Claim 8 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 7, wherein the tightener/shock absorber group (30) comprises calibration means of the longitudinal position of the fixed shoulder (34) of the helicoidal spring (36) with respect to the structure (20) of the undercarriage.

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Claim 9 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 7, wherein the tightener/shock absorber group (30) comprises a cylindrical telescopic guide (31/32) coaxial with the helicoidal spring (36) and with the lubricant injection chamber (38).

Claim 10 (Previously presented): The track-tightening device for crawlers according to claim 7, wherein the tightener/shock absorber group (30) is comprised of the helicoidal spring (36) and with the lubricant injection chamber (38) separate and arranged in series on the same axis.

Claim 11 (Canceled)

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